

1:09

read 8/29/92
discussed 9/1/92

The Glorious Fourth

Sean Kelly

p.2 opportunity for flag of ^{or GB} Soda, along with Am flag

p3 Billy wants an Am Flag
How is he dressed?

p4/5 overstock outlet → ~~Glaze~~ Unusable Surplus Warehouse

p6 warning about explosives?

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why
by little
meaning of liberty

last page men & women

SHINING TIME STATION

"The Glorius Fourth"

BY

Sean Kelly

FIRST DRAFT
JULY 29, 1992

8/29/92

SCENE 1
(MAINSET)

(ON -- OR MOSTLY OFF -- CAMERA WE HEAR A BRASS BAND PLAYING A PATRIOTIC MARCH. WE SEE AT LEAST TWO UNIFORMED BAND MEMBERS -- A PICCOLO PLAYER TOOTLING AWAY, AND A CYMBALS PLAYER STANDING AND AWAITING HIS CUE FROM THE CONDUCTOR. THEY STAND CLOSE TO A BUNTING-WRAPPED TABLE ON WHICH SCHEMER IS OH-SO-CAREFULLY STACKING FIREWORKS -- RED ROCKETS. [SCHEMER IS DRESSED IN A TOO-SMALL UNCLE SAM COSTUME] JUST AS SCHEMER DELICATELY SETS THE FINAL ROCKET IN PLACE ON THE TOP OF THE PYRAMID, THE CYMBALS PLAYER GETS HIS CUE AND LOUDLY CRASHES THE CYMBALS. SCHEMER JUMPS, STARTLED, AND THE STACK COLLAPSES. SCHEMER STEAMS WITH OUTRAGE AS THE BAND CONTINUES TO PLAY -- THE PICCOLO PLAYER AND CYMBALS PLAYER STOUTLY MARCH AWAY FROM HIM)

(CUT TO:)

(PAN A COLORFUL HANGING BANNER [RED, WHITE AND BLUE] "WELCOME TO THE INDIAN VALLEY 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS!")

ANGLE ON:

(THE BANNER IS HANGING OVER THE WAITING ROOM. BENEATH IT, MUCH HUSTLE AND BUSTLE -- BAND MEMBERS MARCHING OUT, [MUSIC FADES] A FAMILY [OF EXTRAS] WITH A PICNIC BASKET CROSSED FOR DIRECTIONS TO STACY AT THE INFORMATION BOOTH. DAN, KARA, AND BECKY MARCH AS FAR AS THE DOOR BEHIND THE EXITING BAND, DOING EXAGGERATED HIGH MARCHING STEPS AND LAUGHING...)

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 2

(SCHEMER IS HAPHAZARDLY REPILING THE ROCKETS. WE SEE THE SIGN ON THE TABLE "ABSOLUTELY SAFE FIREWORKS!" BESIDE THE ROCKETS IS A LARGE DISPLAY OF SMALL FLAGS-ON-STICKS.

SCHEMER:

How about giving me a hand here, Scheeme?

(HIS P.O.V.:

SCHEEME, STANDING BESIDE THE TABLE, IS ALSO WEARING AN UNCLE SAM SUIT)

SCHEEME:

Sure thing, Uncle Schemer.

SCHEMER:

Wait a minute. What's the story with the costume?

SCHEEME:

Well, I figured if you could be "Uncle" Sam, for the Fourth of July, I could be "Nephew" Sam...

(SCHEMER LOOKS THOUGHTFUL FOR A BEAT)

SCHEMER:

Makes sense...

(THEY FINISH STACKING. SCHEMER STEPS BEHIND THE TABLE, AND BEGINS TO SHOUT, CIRCUS-BARKER STYLE -- SCHEME GAZES AT HIM IN IDOL-WORSHIPPING AWE)

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

Hey, getcha fireworks!
Getcha Fourth of July
fireworks here!
Guaranteed safe highly
dangerous explosives!
Get 'em while they're
hot!

OK

(BILLY APPROACHES TABLE)

SCHEEME:

Hi, Billy.

BILLY:

Hi, Scheeme. — *You're looking
very patriotic today*

SCHEMER:

Ah, Mr. Two-Feathers.
you're looking very
patriotic today. What
can I sell you? A bomb?
Something in a rocket?

— *elem*
Billy
how is he dressed?

BILLY:

No thank you, Schemer.
But I might like a
flag...

why would Billy want an am. flag?

SCHEMER:

Nephew Sam, show the man
a flag. Something in red
white and blue.

→ *could use a flag for the
caboose man to wave
at the kids when the
Holiday
Independence Special goes
through town*

(SCHEEME HANDS BILLY A FLAG)

SCHEEME:

They're on sale today.
Ten cents each, two for a
quarter.

(BILLY TAKES A FLAG, EXAMINES IT)

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

BILLY:

It's a beautiful
flag, isn't it... Wait a
minute.

(HE CONCENTRATES ON THE FLAG)

Schemer, this flag has
only 48 stars. The flag
is supposed to have
50 stars, one for each
state.

(in the United States of America)

SCHEMER:

Really? Well, I'll be...
They didn't say anything
about that at the highly
reputable overstock outlet
where I bought the...

(BILLY HANDS BACK THE FLAG TO
SCHEMER)

Surplus Galore Warehouse
Surplus For the Birds Warehouse
Surplus Garbage Warehouse
- pronounced Gar bag
Surplus For No Use Warehouse

BILLY:

Thanks anyway.

SCHEMER:

Listen, look, who's going
to notice? Who counts?
And you'll be waving it
around, anyway... How
about five cents?

hell

SCHEEME:

Three for a quarter!

BILLY:

By the way, Schemer, what
does "Absolutely Safe"
fireworks mean?

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

Ah. Yes. Well. I'm
glad you asked me that,
Billy.

(SCHEMER NOTICES THAT SCHEEME IS
LISTENING, ALL EARS)

Kid? Why don't you go
away somewhere and make
money? See you later.
Bye now...

(SCHEEME LEAVES. SCHEMER LEANS IN
AND EXPLAINS THINGS TO BILLY --
VERY CONFIDENTIAL)

They aren't loaded.

BILLY:

What?

SCHEMER:

They're absolutely safe,
because they don't work.
See?

(SCHEMER POPS THE NOSE-CONE TOP OFF
A ROCKET, TURNS IT UPSIDE DOWN,
SHAKES IT. IT'S EMPTY)

Nothing. Nada. Zilch.

(BILLY IS PICKING UP VARIOUS
ROCKETS WITH BOTH HAND AND
"WEIGHING" THEM. ONE HE HOLDS
SEEMS HEAVIER THAN THE OTHER)

BILLY:

Where'd you get these
things, Schemer?

SCHEMER:

At the cut rate discount
overstock outlet where I
got the flags. Why?

another name?

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

BILLY:

(LAUGHS)

Because I think for once
you got cheated -- some
of these are loaded.
Like this one....

(BILLY FLIPS THE ROCKET HIGH IN THE
AIR IN SCHEMER'S DIRECTION. A LOOK
OF TOTAL TERROR CROSSES SCHEMER'S
FACE. HE LUNGES AND DIVES TO CATCH
THE "LOADED" ROCKET)

BILLY:

See you later, Schemer...

change sign thereafter
to Read

Sometimes Absolutely
Safe Fireworks

or Absolutely Safe Fireworks
Except When They Blow Up
and Have Schemer Write
it in & Read it

SCENE 3
(MAINSET)

(MAYOR FLOPDINGER, ALL DRESSED UP
IN A MORNING SUIT, BUSTLES IN,
LOOKING AT HIS POCKET WATCH,
FRANTIC. HE BUMPS INTO UNCLE SAM --
ACTUALLY, A LIFE-SIZED CARDBOARD
CUT OUT OF SCHEMER AS UNCLE SAM.
HE BACKS OFF, STARTLED)

MAYOR:

Excuse me. Pardon me.
Wha...?

(HE SEES THAT BESIDE THE CUT OUT IS
SCHEEME WITH A POLAROID CAMERA ON A
STRAP AROUND HIS NECK)

SCHEEME:

Hi, Mayor Flopdinger!
Wanna have your picture
taken with Uncle Sam?
Only a quarter a picture, →
two for a dollar...

for one picture.

MAYOR:

Thank you, no thank you.
No time, you understand.
Busy day for those of us
in the public eye.
Fourth of July, you
know...

(THE MAYOR HEADS IN THE DIRECTION
OF THE ARCADE, SCHEEME FOLLOWING
WITH THE CUT-OUT)

SCHEEME:

Just on^e picture, Your
Honor? Very patriotic.
Great for the image.
It'll only take a
second...

✓ *one*

(MAYOR STOPS. THINKS)

MAYOR:

Hmm. Are you old enough
to vote?

SCENE 3 (CONT'D)

SCHEEME:

No, sir.

(MAYOR BUSTLES OFF, SCHEEME TAGGING
BEHIND)

MAYOR:

Well, in that case I have
No time now, no time.
See me later... in a
couple of years...

(TOGETHER THEY ARRIVE AT THE:)

SCENE 4
(ARCADE)

SCHEMER:

✓
your Honor! Mayor
Flopdinge, sir! Always
a pleasure! Happy Fourth
of July to you! ✓

MAYOR:

Yes, indeed. Schemer, I
just wanted to check. To
double check. About
tonight's pyrotechnical
display.

SCHEMER:

The pirates did what?
What pirates? *Where are the pirates coming tonight?*

MAYOR:

The PYRO-TECH-NICS. The
fireworks. The ones you
sold to the town. I
presume everything is in
order for the rockets'
red glare, the (bobs)
bursting in air, all that
sort of thing? ✓ *bombs*

SCHEMER:

Oh, I hope so, sir. I
mean, certainly, yes sir,
Your Honor.

SCHEEME:

Uncle Schemer, did
you sell the mayor
fireworks like these
ones...?

(SCHEMER GRABS SCHEEME, CLAMPS A
HAND OVER HIS MOUTH)

SCHEMER:

No. Yes. Boy, kids
today, eh, Your Honor?

*they're always asking their cute
little questions*

SCENE 4 (CONT'D)

(BUT THE MAYOR IS DISTRACTED.
HE'S SPOTTED STACY, AND DASHES AWAY
TO SPEAK TO HER)

MAYOR:

Ah, there she is. Miss
Jones! Stacy! Miss
Jones...

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 5
(MAINSET)

(STACY AT THE INFO BOOTH IS
FINISHED GIVING DIRECTIONS TO A
FAMILY OF EXTRAS, AND THEY ARE
LEAVING)

STACY:

You can't miss it. Right
across the road from the
bandshell. Enjoy your
picnic!

MAYOR:

(O.S.)

Miss Jones! Stacy!

(BREATHLESS, THE MAYOR APPROACHES
STACY IN THE BOOTH)

STACY:

Hi, Mayor Flopdinger!
Don't you just love the
Fourth of July? Isn't it
exciting?

MAYOR:

Well, that's easy for you
to say, Miss Jones. You
don't have to give a
speech.

STACY:

Oh, but a Fourth of July
speech should be easy for
an orator and statesman
like you -- You can talk
about the Revolution and
the Constitution, the
Declaration of
Independence and the Bill
of Rights...

MAYOR:

I can?

*Are you enjoying
the 4th of July
picnic?*

SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

STACY:

Sure. And you can remind us about Democracy. You know... "Government of the people, by the people and for the people..."

MAYOR:

Say, Miss Jones, that's good. That's excellent! Do you mind if I use it? Have you got a pencil? A piece of paper? How did it go again? May I quote you?

The back of this old envelope will do

(STACY FINDS PAPER AND PENCIL,
HANDS THEM TO THE MAYOR)

STACY:

Well, actually, your honor, it's President Lincoln's.

MAYOR:

(IMPRESSED)

Really? This very pencil belonged to President Lincoln! Think of that! Ah, what a precious heirloom!

STACY:

No, sir, I meant the words. "By the people, for the people and of the people."

SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

MAYOR:

Miss Jones, keep the pencil, It must be very valuable. Miss Jones, I've just had one of my famous brilliant ideas. You, as the proud possessor of a pencil once owned by President Lincoln, are the one who should give the patriotic speech tonight!

STACY:

But Your Honor, sir, I...
I can't... that is...

(THE MAYOR BEGINS TO RETREAT,
SMILING)

MAYOR:

No need to thank me.
Consider it done. Now I
must hurry off and
compose a suitable
introduction for you!
Until this evening, then.

(SFX: TRAIN ARRIVING)

(THE MAYOR CHECKS HIS POCKET WATCH)

Ah! That must be the
~~Fourth of July~~ Special
Express arriving. Right
on time!

Independence Special

STACY:

Oh, dear.

(AS THE MAYOR EXITS, A MOB OF
TRAVELERS ENTER)

Oh, dear!

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 6
(MAINSET)

(MONTAGE OF THE BUSY STATION. THE BRASS BAND [OR AT ANY RATE, THE PICCOLO PLAYER] IS BACK AND PLAYS "YANKEE DOODLE" OVER MOST MONTAGE OF SCENES...

THE EXTRAS INCLUDE KIDS WEARING STATUE OF LIBERTY CROWNS, PARENTS PUSHING BABY CARRIAGES, DECORATED WITH BALLOONS, FLAGS AND STREAMERS...

STREET ENTERTAINERS, E.G. STILT-WALKER, FIRE-EATER, JUGGLER, MIMES, A PERFORMING DOG...ALL IN PATRIOTIC GET-UPS.

WE SEE THEM WITH SCHEMER BUYING FLAGS AND ROCKETS... WITH SCHEEME AND HIS UNCLE SAM CUT-OUT HAVING THEIR PICTURES TAKEN... WITH STACY GETTING DIRECTIONS AND INFORMATION...)

(no kids buying rockets)

(MUSIC FADES...)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 7
(MAINSET)

(STACY WAVING GOODBYE TO THE LAST
OF THEM. SHE SIGHS. TAKES UP A
PENCIL.

STACY:

(TO HERSELF)

Now, let's see. What can
I say? "Ask not what
your country can do for
you." Hmmm ...

BECKY & KARA:

(O.S.)

Hi, Stacy!

(STARTLED [AND INTERRUPTED] STACY
LOOKS UP)

(KARA AND BECKY HOP HAPPILY TOWARD
HER -- THEIR LEGS -- OR AT LEAST,
ONE LEG OF EACH -- ARE TIED
TOGETHER WITH TWINE)

KARA:

We're in training for the
three-legged race.

practicing

BECKY:

And there's ^{are} sack races,
and a soft ball game ...

are
✓

KARA:

And there's ^{are} prizes and
everything!

✓

STACY:

Hmmm.

BECKY:

Ooops. Sorry. If you're
busy...

SCENE 7 (CONT'D)

KARA:

Can we help?

STACY:

No, that's all right,
kids... Hey maybe you
can help.

(STACY PICKS UP HER PENCIL AGAIN,
AS IF INTERVIEWING THE GIRLS)

What does the Fourth of
July mean to you?

KARA:

Fireworks. Picnics.

BECKY:

Flags. Bands. A parade.

KARA:

Games. Like races. and,
uhm... lemonade!

BECKY:

Fireworks!

KARA:

I said fireworks.

STACY:

Okay, but what else?
What about Liberty?
Freedom? Independence?

KARA:

Oh, right.

BECKY:

~~All that stuff.~~ Sure...

(CUT TO:)

we learned about those things

SCENE 8
(INT. JUKEBOX)

TITO:

Hey, amigos! A happy
Fourth of July to all
of you!

GRACE:

Right back at you, Tito,
baby.

DIDI:

My favorite days have
always been holidays.

REX:

The Fourth of July brings
a tear to mah eye.

TEX:

Why Rex -- you crazy
rhymen' cowboy, you!

(WAILS)

The Fourth of
Juuuly/Brings a tear to
mah eeeye...

REX:

Shut up, Tex.

That's enough, Tex

DIDI:

Tito -- what exactly does
"Independence " mean to
you?

TITO:

Let me think. I guess it
means freedom, you know.
Like being my own boss --
pulling my own strings.

Like playing my own tunes on my own way

SCENE 8 (CONT'D)

GRACE:

Pulling your own strings

Now that is something I
would love to see!

(CUT TO:)

*What's it all about?
pulling your strings
independence*

SCENE 9
(MAINSET)

(STACY HAS LEFT. KARA AND BECKY
ARE PRACTICING THEIR RACING
TECHNIQUE)

KARA:

Okay now, left!

(THEY STUMBLE)

Whoops. I meant my left,
your right. Okay?
Right!

(THEY STUMBLE)

BECKY:

Whose right? My right?

DAN:

(OS)

Kara! Becky! Look at
this!

(DAN ENTERS, CARRYING A "HUMANE"
TRAP -- WITH A RABBIT IN IT. HE
CROSSES TO THE COUNTER AND SETS IT
DOWN. THE GIRLS HOP OVER.

BECKY:

What is it? Oh, wow! A
rabbit.

KARA:

It's a real rabbit!

DAN:

Yeah, Isn't it great?

KARA:

Is it okay? It isn't
hurt, is it?

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

BECKY:

Whose is it, Dan? Is it yours?

DAN:

It's Billy's, I guess. I mean, it's his trap. I helped him set it in the garden out back.

KARA:

I wonder what he'll do with it?

(MR. C. APPEARS ON THE COUNTER
BESIDE THE CAGE)

MR. C:

Knowing Billy, he'll let it go. Give it it's freedom. It's a good day for freedom.

KARA, BECKY, DAN:

(AD LIB)

Hi, Mr. Conductor
(etc.).

MR. C:

Hi kids. Happy Fourth!

DAN:

Where have you been, Mr. Conductor?

BECKY:

In Sodor?

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

Well, if you must know,
I've been in New York,
visiting a lady friend.
A beautiful French lady
friend, in fact.

KARA:

(GIGGLING)

Really? From France?

BECKY:

What's her name, Mr.
Conductor?

MR. C:

The Statue of Liberty,.
of course. I drop in on
her every Fourth of July.

(ANGLE ON:)

(SCHEME CREEPING OUT OF THE
ARCADE, CAMERA AT THE READY)

DAN:

(OS)

But she's not French!

KARA:

(OS)

She is so. The French
people gave her to
America. We learned that
in history.

DAN:

(OS)

We did? Oh, yeah, I knew
that. I was just
testing...

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

SCHEME:

(SHOUTS)

Say cheese!

(HE TAKES A PICTURE, FLASHBULB
FLASHING. INSTANTLY, IN A CLOUD OF
SPARKLING DUST, MR. C. VANISHES)

KARA:

Scheme!

DAN:

Why do you do stuff like
that?

BECKY:

You scared the rabbit!

(DAN PICKS UP THE CAGE)

DAN:

C'mon, guys. Let's take
it to Billy.

(THEY EXIT. SCHEME SHOUTS AFTER
THEM...)

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

SCHEMEE:

Hey! Don't you wanna
see your picture? Just
25 cents each -- four for
a dollar...

three

(SCHEMEE PULLS THE PICTURE OUT OF
THE CAMERA, LOOKS AT IT)

Boy, look at those faces!
Looks like four scared
rabbits. Hey... what's
that?

(CUT TO:)

(CU: THE PICTURE IN HIS HAND --
BESIDE THE RABBIT CAGE, A CLOUD OF
GOLD DUST)

(CUT TO:)

(CU SCHEMEE)

Gold dust!

(HE RUNS TO THE COUNTER, SEARCHING
FRANTICALLY, RUNNING HIS FINGERS
OVER IT)

Rich. I'm gonna be rich!
Where... Yeah! Here it
is! Gee, there's not
much of it, is there...

(SCHEMEE RUBS HIS FINGERS TOGETHER
AND DISAPPEARS. [ONLY THE CAMERA
REMAINS, HANGING AROUND HIS
INVISIBLE NECK])

(VO)

Oh well, too bad. I
guess nothing really
exciting ever happens
around this place...
Still... gold...

(SCHEMEE FLICKERS BACK TO
VISIBILITY)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 10

(BILLY'S OFFICE)

(THE RABBIT AND CAGE ARE ON BILLY'S DESK. DAN, BECKY, AND KARA ARE GATHERED AROUND. BILLY CHUCKLES AT THE ANIMAL)

BILLY:

So this is the fellow who's been eating all my vegetables. You're a hungry one, aren't you, little nephew?

DAN:

What are you going to do with him, Billy?

BECKY:

Can we keep him as a pet?

BILLY:

Oh, I don't think little nephew here would be happy as a pet. I'll take him with me when I leave and let him go out in the woods.

KARA:

How come you call him "Nephew?"

BILLY:

Well, the people known as the Winnebago said that all human beings were the uncles and aunts of this particular animal. In their stories, he was an important animal-spirit -- to them he was a brave hero -- and a very clever trickster.

DAN:

Like Bugs Bunny in the movies!

SCENE 10 (CONT'D)

KARA:

Or Br'er Rabbit in the
Uncle Remus stories.

BILLY:

Pretty much, yes.

BECKY:

Tell us one, Billy? A
Winny... Winub...

BILLY:

Winnebago. They lived in
what we now call
Wisconsin. Well...

present tense or past?

(BILLY LOOKS AT THIS WATCH, PUS IT
AWAY, SITS)

✓

They say that once Hare
came upon a path in the
forest, and he decided to
catch whoever had made
that path. So he made a
trap of thistles. But
whatever it was who had
walked along that path
broke out of the trap.
Hare made another trap,
of bark and string. But
whoever walked the path
escaped that trap, too.
Then he asked his
Grandmother for a rope of
her braided hair and made
another trap. The next
morning he heard someone
crying "Hare, come and
untie me!" In the trap
he saw something shining
-- and he realized he had
captured the Sun! Of
course, he had to cut it
loose, and while he was
doing that, his tail got
scorched. See what a
little tail Hare still
has?

SCENE 10 (CONT'D)

(LAUGHING, BILLY LIFTS THE RABBIT
OUT OF THE CAGE, AND TAKES IT WITH
HIM AS HE HEADS OUT)

BILLY (CONT'D):

Come with me, Nephew.
You freed the sun -- now
I'll free you.

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 11
(MAINSET)

(AT THE TICKET BOOTH, STACY IS TRYING TO WRITE HER SPEECH WITH SOME UN-ASKED FOR HELP FROM SCHEMER)

SCHEMER:

Why is July 4th about freedom? I'll tell you. July 4th is about America. America is a country. In the country, there's fresh air. And fresh air is free!

*pen will be overlooked
in the country there is*

(PAUSE)

Unfortunately. If only people could find a way to charge people for fresh air...

SCHEEME:

Pssst! Pssst!

STACY:

Thanks, Schemer. You've been a big help with this speech I have to give...

sarcastically?

SCHEMER:

Any time, Miss Jones.

(SCHEMER CROSSES TO SCHEEME IN THE:)

SCENE 12
(ARCADE)

SCHEMER:

What is it, blight of my
life?

SCHEEME:

Look. Look at this,
Uncle Schemer. It's
gold!

SCHEMER:

Oh, sure. You've
discovered gold right
here in -- Great Gatsby!
It is gold!

SCHEEME:

Shhh! I found a little
pile of it, right over
there. And that means...

SCHEMER:

...There must be a big
pile of it around here
somewhere!

SCHEEME:

Exacta-mundo!

SCHEMER:

But how...

(SCHEMER PAUSES. THINKS. GETS IT.
SNAPS FINGERS. LOOKS AROUND,
AFRAID SOMEONE HAS HEARD HIM SNAP
FINGERS. WHISPERS)

Tonight -- when
everyone's at the park
listening to the speeches
and watching the
fireworks... we'll turn
this place upside-down.
We're gonna be rich!
Shhh!

SCENE 12 (CONT'D)

(SCHEMER VERY NEARLY SHOUTS THE
WORD "RICH", CATCHES AND SHUSHES
HIMSELF. HE AND SCHEME CROSS, WITH
FORCED CASUALNESS, TO EXIT. THEY
PASS THE MAYOR IN THE:)

SCENE 13
(MAINSET)

MAYOR:

(AS USUAL, HE'S CHECKING HIS WATCH)

you'll be there ~~if~~ you wait you
Will you be on time, Miss
Jones? First rule of
politics -- don't keep
'em waiting. For too
long, that is.

(Woody Allen line)
as they say — 99%, of politics is just
showing up

(CHUCKLE, CHUCKLE)

(STACY, CARRYING HER PAPERS,
CROSSES TO THE MAYOR)

STACY:

Your Honor, I'm not so
sure about this... I
mean...

MAYOR:

Nonsense, my dear.
you're a born orator...
Now, don't forget that
there's an election
coming up. You might
throw in some mention
about my participation
in the Gas Works... Yes,
I've heard them call me
"Mr. Gas Works." Well,
see you on the podium.

work to build a
Hot air Generator
Hot air

(HE EXITS)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 14
(STATION CLOCK, HANDS TURNING)

SCENE 15
(MAINSET)

(IT'S QUITE DARK. AT THE COUNTER, STACY IS STILL SCRIBBLING AWAY ON HER SPEECH. MR. C. APPEARS BESIDE HER PAPERS)

MR. C:

Don't' work in the dark,
Stacy. You'll tire
your eyes.

(CONCENTRATING, NOT LOOKING UP,
STACY REACHES AND SWITCHES ON A
LAMP)

STACY:

Thanks.

(PAUSE)

Oh, hi, Mr. Conductor!
It is getting cloudy and
dark out, isn't it? I
hope it doesn't rain on
the fireworks...

KARA & BECKY:

(OS)

We won! Stacy! We won!

(KARA, BECKY AND DAN ENTER HAPPILY)

KARA:

We won the three-legged
race!

DAN:

Thanks to my coaching.

MR. C:

Where's that rabbit, Dan?

*on the back of an envelope
few so earlier*

SCENE 15 (CONT'D)

DAN:

Oh, hi, Mr. Conductor.
He's fine, I guess. Billy
took him out in the woods
somewhere and let him
escape.

MR. C:

Good for Billy. We had
an escape not long ago on
the Island of Sodor.

STACY:

you mean, someone escaped
from Sodor?

MR. C:

No, no, no. Listen...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 16

(TTE: "ESCAPE")

SCENE 17
(MAINSET)

(STACY AND THE KIDS ARE GATHERED AROUND MR. C. IT HAS GROWN EVEN DARKER. THROUGH THE WINDOWS WE CAN NOW SEE LIGHTNING FLASHES)

DAN:

Wow. What a close call
for Oliver!

BECKY:

That was a scary story,
Mr. Conductor.

KARA:

'Specially with all that
lightning outside!
Brrrr!

(ANGLE ON:

BILLY STANDING ACROSS THE ROOM,
NEWLY RETURNED)

BILLY:

C'mon everybody, unless
you want to miss the
fireworks...

(A FLASH OF LIGHTNING)

Don't worry about that.
It's only "heat
lightning". Let's go.
Stacy -- don't forget
your speech...

(TOGETHER THEY EXIT. MR. C. WAVES
GOODBYE. A BEAT. SCHEMER AND
SCHEME TIP TOE IN FORM THE ARCADE
AREA. THEY WEAR COVERALLS -- AND
MINER'S HATS WITH LIGHTS ON THEM --
PRACTICALLY THE ONLY LIGHT IN THE
STATION IS PROVIDED BY THEIR
ERRATIC, SWEEPING BEAMS. THEY ALSO
HAVE AN INDUSTRIAL VACUUM
CLEANER, WITH A HOSE AND NOZZLE.
THEY "SHUSH" EACH OTHER CONSTANTLY)

SCENE 17 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

I wonder what those two
are up to?

(MR. C. DISAPPEARS FROM THE COUNTER
IN A SPRINKLE OF GOLD DUST... AND
REAPPEARS IN A SIMILAR GLITTERING
CLOUD BEHIND THEM IN THE:)

SCENE 18
(ARCADE)

(JUST AS MR. C APPEARS, WE HEAR THE SUDDEN ROAR OF THE VACUUM -- AND SEE THAT HE IS RIGHT BESIDE THE NOZZLE. IT INSTANTLY SUCKS UP HIS GOLD DUST. HE JUMPS BEHIND SOMETHING [THE JUKEBOX?] TO HIDE)

SCHEEME:

(OS)

Uncle Schemer! Over here, quick! I found some! I found some gold dust!

MR. C:

(WHISPERS)

Oh my goodness -- I've lost my magic dust. Now I can't disappear. This is serious!

(MR. C. RUNS AWAY ALONG THE TOP OF A BENCH, OUT OF FRAME)

(THE ROAR OF THE VACUUM STOPS ABRUPTLY)

(CUT TO:)

(CU: SCHEMER AND SCHEEME WHISPERING, THEIR FACE WEIRDLY LIT UP BY EACH OTHER'S HEAD LAMPS...)

SCHEMER:

You found some gold?

SCHEEME?

I think so. I vacuumed it up.

(A SOUND: SOMETHING SMALL KNOCKED OVER AND FALLING)

SCHEMER:

What was that?

SCENE 18 (CONT'D)

SCHEEME:

What?

(SOUND: A PATTERN OF TINY FOOTSTEPS
RUNNING AWAY)

SCHEMER:

Listen! There's someone
in here with us.
Someone trying to steal
our gold! We'll just see
about that...

(CHASE SEQUENCE)

(AROUND THE ARCADE, SCHEMER'S
HEADLAMP SWEEPS... MR. C. FLATTENS
HIMSELF AGAINST THE WALL, DUCKS AND
SCURRIES)

SCHEMER:

(VO)

C'mon. I gotcha now.
Come to poppa. What are
you, a man or a mouse. I
hope you're a mouse...
There you are!

(BRIEFLY CAUGHT IN THE LIGHT, MR.
C. LEAPS... ONTO THE TABLE WITH
SCHEMER'S ROCKETS ON DISPLAY.
DESPERATE, HE STRADDLES A ROCKET,
LIGHTS A MATCH TO ITS FUSE... AND
IN A MIGHTY ROAR AND TRAIL OF
SPARKS THE ROCKET, WITH MR. C. ON
BOARD, FLIES PAST THE STARTLED
SCHEMER AND ACROSS THE STATION IN
THE DIRECTION OF BILLY'S WORKSHOP)

SCHEMER:

Stop! Thief! Come back
here! How dare you steal
my only rocket that
works?

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 19
(INT. JUKEBOX)

(THE PUPPETS ARE STARING UP)

DIDI:

What was that?

GRACE:

That was loud.

TEX:

Sounded worser 'n Rex's
old pick-up truck back
firin'!

TITO:

It was fireworks! That's
our cue, gang! Hit it!
One two three...

(PUPPET BAND PERFORMS "YANKEE
DOODLE")

(DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 20
(ARCADE)

(SCHEEME SQUATS ON THE FLOOR,
TRYING TO OPEN THE VACUUM CLEANER)

SCHEEME:

(MUTTERING TO HIMSELF)

2 lines...
Gold. There's a ~~trillion~~
dollars worth of gold in
here, and I can't get the
darn thing open. C'mon.
C'mon!

(WITH A MIGHTY EFFORT, HE POPS IT
OPEN... AND GOLD DUST FLIES OUT AND
UP AND ALL OVER HIM. HE INSTANTLY
DISAPPEARS, BECOMING JUST A
FLOATING MINER'S HELMET AND A PAIR
OF GLOVES. OF COURSE, HE DOESN'T
KNOW THIS. HE GETS UP AND GOES IN
SEARCH OF HIS UNCLE.

Uncle Schemer, I'm rich!
I mean, we're rich.
Uncle Schemer? Where are
you?

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 21
(BILLY'S WORKSHOP)

(THE BURNT-OUT ROCKET AND MR. C. ARE ON TOP OF BILLY'S DESK AT THE EMPTY RABBIT TRAP. MR. C. IS BACKING AWAY, LOOKING FRANTICALLY FOR A MEANS OF ESCAPE, AS SCHEMER'S LIGHT SWEEPS THE SURFACE)

SCHEMER:

(VO)

Okay, Mister Rocket-stealer. I know you're not a ghost. You're not a ghost! You're a mouse. So, c'mon out with your paws up...

(MR. C. BACKS INTO THE TRAP, WHICH SNAPS LOUDLY SHUT)

SCHEMER (CONT'D):

(VO)

Ah-ha! Trapped like a mouse in a trap. In fact, you are a mouse in a trap. I've gotcha now...

(ANGLE ON:)

(SCHEMER BENDING OVER, PICKING UP THE TRAP)

SCHEEME:

(OS)

What'cha doin', Uncle Schemer?

(SCHEMER TURNS TO THE VOICE IN THE DOORWAY)

(SCHEMER'S POV:)

(A FLOATING HAT AND GLOVES IN THE DOORWAY)

(SCHEMER SCREAMS, DROPS THE TRAP, WHICH SWINGS OPEN)

SCENE 21 (CONT'D)

(INTERCUT)

(MR. C. CLAMBERING OUT OF THE OPEN
TRAP)

(TERRIFIED, SCHEMER RUNS PAST THE
INVISIBLE SCHEME, OUT ONTO THE:

SCENE 22
(MAINSET)

(WE HEAR THUNDER AND SEE LIGHTNING FLASHES THROUGH THE WINDOWS. VERY GOTHIC. SCHEMER, YELLING AND WHIMPERING, RUNS AROUND THE STATION AWAY FROM THE INVISIBLE MAN WHO FOLLOWS HIM. EVENTUALLY, HE BUMPS INTO THE SCARIEST SIGHT OF ALL, THE LIFE-SIZED CARDBOARD CUT-OUT OF HIMSELF. WITH A FINAL HOWL, HE DASHES OUT OF THE STATION... SCHEEME BEHIND HIM ALL THE WAY...)

SCHEEME:

(AD LIB)

Uncle Schemer, we're
rich. Come back. What's
wrong? We're rich.
Uncle Schemer...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 23
(ARCADE)

(ON THE FLOOR BESIDE THE OPEN
VACUUM CLEANER, MR. C. GATHERS UP
HIS MAGIC DUST. HE SMILES, AND
TALKS TO HIMSELF)

MR. C:

Now that's a funny thing
about freedom -- I must
remember to enjoy it more
often -- even no one's
trying to take it away...

(HE SPRINKLES HIMSELF AND VANISHES)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

✓ even when
freedom -- you hardly know it's
there until it's gone --
I must remember to take good
care of it and to enjoy it
more often.

SCENE 24
(MAINSET)

(STACY, BILLY, KARA, BECKY, DAN AND
THE MAYOR ENTER, SHAKING OUT
UMBRELLAS...)

KARA:

Stacy, you were great.

STACY:

Thank you, Kara.

MAYOR:

I second that, Miss
Jones. It was a
wonderful speech.
Moving, touching, and so
forth. No, I mean it, it
was. And if it hadn't
started raining all over
the crowd, I'm sure
everybody else would have
stayed and enjoyed it,
too.

STACY:

Well, I don't know...

(THEY ARE INTERRUPTED BY SCHEMER AND
SCHEEME WHO NOW REENTER. SOAKING
WET. SCHEEME HAS RETURNED TO
NORMAL -- THOUGH THEY BOTH STILL
WEAR THEIR COVERALLS AND MINERS
HATS)

✓ WEAR

SCHEMER:

...the idea of scaring
your poor old uncle half
to death like that!

SCHEEME:

Gee, I'm sorry, Schemer,
I didn't mean to...

BILLY:

What are you two all
dressed up for?

SCENE 24 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

What? This? Dressed
like this? Why? Uhm...
Because while you were
out having fun, Scheeme
and I were here at the
station, working.

BILLY:

Working at what?

SCHEMEE:

(THINKING FAST)

Capturing wild animals
~~Exterminating!~~ Yeah!
you may not know it, but
this place is full of.. *little*
wild animals. Right,
Uncle Schemer?

→ that need to be put in cages

SCHEMER:

And ghosts, too.

BECKY:

Stacy -- how were you
going to end your July
Fourth speech, anyway?

STACY:

I didn't really know,
Becky. I guess with the
words that Independence
Day is all about: "We
hold these truths to be
self-evident; that all
men are created equal;
that they are endowed by
their creator with
certain unalienable
rights; that among these
are life, liberty and the
pursuit of happiness."

of course
(and that means women too)

(PAN THE GROUP, AS STACY RECITES.
THE OTHERS SAY THE WORDS ALONG WITH
HER -- THE MAYOR WITH HIS HAND ON
HIS HEART. AT THE CONCLUSION,
EVERYONE APPLAUDS)